

first means for storing programming instructions that facilitate storing variable security policy rule data for use by a network node; and

a7
second means for storing programming instructions that facilitate providing the variable security policy rule data for distribution to at least one network node other than through a forwarded signed message to facilitate unilateral security policy enforcement at a network node level.

AS
39. (New Claim) The system of Claim 1 wherein the central security policy rule data distribution source is a certification authority.

40. (New Claim) The system of Claim 1 wherein the variable policy rule data includes policy rule data on a per node basis.


Response

The claims are believed allowable in view of the above Amendments. The dependent claims are believed to add additional novelty. The Applicants' attorney invites the Examiner to contact the below listed attorney at the number indicated if it is believed that a telephone conference will expedite the prosecution of the instant application.

Respectfully submitted,

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By


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